

“NEPIRC provides a valuable service to our manufacturing community. Their advocacy of our industry and of careers in manufacturing is to be commended.” David Simpson, President/CEO

Metal Fabricator Uses Youth Programs To Successfully Address Workforce Challenges

ABOUT. Diamond Manufacturing Company produces perforated metal sizing screens for the coal industry. The company serves over 25 different industry groups, including HVAC, agriculture, power generation, automotive, and the petrochemical industry. Since 1915, Diamond Manufacturing has been providing original equipment manufacturers, job shops, and architectural firms with quality perforated material. The company employs 210 individuals at its facility in Wyoming, Pennsylvania.

THE CHALLENGE. Anticipating a shortage of skilled workers to fill future employment needs, Diamond Manufacturing accepted an opportunity to participate in a Youth Apprenticeship Program. This program places youth apprentice workers within industry to create a highly skilled workforce by integrating school, employment and training. Diamond Manufacturing recognized the educational objectives of the program and contacted the Northeastern Pennsylvania Industrial Resource Center (NEPIRC), a NIST MEP affiliate, for assistance in this endeavor.

MEP'S ROLE. A NEPIRC Youth Apprentice Program Coordinator worked with Diamond Manufacturing and local schools to place students in the company, develop training plans and agreements in conjunction with company employers, and facilitate the transfer of grading information from the company to the school. NEPIRC facilitated the youth programs and developed the youth worker training programs, which were also used for more traditional workers.



RESULTS



\$20,000 investment in workforce training



Cost savings of **\$12,000**

NEXT STEPS



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